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Letter dated 10 December 2013 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

On behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism, I have the honour to submit to the Security Council the report of the Committee for its comprehensive consideration of the work of the Committee and its Executive Directorate from 2011 to 2013 (see annex).

The Committee would appreciate it if the present letter and its annex were brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed **Loulichki**
Chair
Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

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Annex

Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism to the Security Council for its comprehensive consideration of the work of the Committee and its Executive Directorate from 2011 to 2013

I. Introduction

1. The Security Council, in its resolution 1963 (2010), decided that the Executive Directorate of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism will continue to operate as a special political mission under the policy guidance of the Committee for the period ending 31 December 2013. The Counter-Terrorism Committee, in its work programme for 2013, states that on the basis of information provided by the Executive Directorate, the Committee will submit to the Security Council a report on the Directorate's work, for consideration by the Council as part of its comprehensive review of the Directorate, prior to the expiration of the Directorate's mandate on 31 December 2013 (S/2013/161, annex, para. 11).

2. The Committee submitted its interim report to the Council in 2012 (S/2012/465). It has prepared the present report to assist the Council in its comprehensive consideration of the work of the Executive Directorate. The Committee has also included recommendations on the future work of the Executive Directorate.

II. Emerging trends and ongoing challenges for Member States

3. The Committee reaffirms that terrorism continues to pose a serious threat to international peace and security. The Committee has noted that terrorists and terrorist organizations continually adapt their tactics and methods in an effort to thwart the efforts of counter-terrorism actors. Terrorists continue to devise new fundraising methods, which now include trafficking in weapons, narcotics and counterfeit goods, as well as kidnapping for ransom. Other trends include the growing use of false identification to obtain legitimate and secure travel documents, the increased use of the Internet and other communications technologies (whether to incite terrorist acts or attract new recruits), and the emerging phenomenon of terrorists acting alone or in small cells. This rapid innovation, combined with the development of new ways to conceal communications, presents the international community with new and formidable challenges in its efforts to predict, detect and disrupt the activities of terrorist organizations, while also respecting human rights.

4. The Committee recognizes that many States continue to face challenges in achieving the effective implementation of Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005), owing to the complexity of the terrorism threat, a lack of financial resources and infrastructure, insufficient human resources, inadequate inter-agency cooperation and coordination, and competing developmental priorities. The three dimensions of State action for effectively countering terrorism (namely, legislative, institutional and operational) need to be continually strengthened, especially in light of the above-mentioned trends. States must also take action to reinforce the capacities of their criminal justice systems in order to ensure that their counter-terrorism

activities respect human rights. Such action includes the specialized training of court officials and the introduction of a wide range of related measures, including special investigative techniques that incorporate additional safeguards such as prior authorization and judicial oversight, and witness protection programmes. Within the framework of their regimes for countering money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, many States are taking steps to strengthen their capacity in financial investigations and to ensure that law enforcement agencies are given adequate and timely access to national and international information-sharing mechanisms. States are also forging partnerships with civil society and the private sector to prevent terrorism. In some States, financial institutions are being encouraged to implement industry-led measures to ensure that remittances from overseas flow securely through formal channels and, in the longer term, to work with Governments to promote access to financial products and services at an affordable cost for low-income persons or persons who have been excluded from the formal financial sector.

5. The Committee notes that the terrorism threat has become more diffuse, and it welcomes the fact that more States are taking a holistic approach by developing strategies that address conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism and by taking preventive measures that involve many sectors of society. This in itself presents a new set of challenges, such as devising new approaches to countering incitement and violent extremism, and taking account of the relationship between security and development. Lastly, the international obligation to ensure respect for human rights and the rule of law in countering terrorism presents an additional set of challenges. In particular, States must ensure that special counter-terrorism measures comply with the principles of necessity and proportionality, respect due process guarantees in asset-freezing procedures, ensure that measures taken to protect non-profit organizations from being abused by the financiers of terrorism respect the right to freedom of association and take full account of the rights of victims of terrorism.

6. The Committee believes that there is a need to further strengthen coordination by United Nations agencies that have a counter-terrorism mandate or whose activities relate closely to counter-terrorism, as well as coordination between the United Nations and other international entities and groups. The synchronization and harmonization of capacity-building initiatives and programmes and other counter-terrorism activities require additional effort, and it is ever more essential to develop measuring tools and benchmarks to record the impact of donors' financial and technical assistance and recipients' capacity-building efforts and progress. The current global economic and financial climate has had a negative impact on counter-terrorism activities. The international community remains committed to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, but should strengthen its efforts to achieve full implementation of the relevant resolutions and international counter-terrorism instruments.

III. Taking stock of Member States' implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001)

7. During the review cycle (1 January 2011-30 November 2013), the Committee approved 50 preliminary implementation assessments of Member States' implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). Since 2006, the Committee and its Executive Directorate have used the preliminary implementation assessments as a

diagnostic tool to measure the progress made by all 193 Member States. It has also published a technical guide to assist States in their implementation efforts.

8. At a public briefing held on 2 May 2013, the Committee introduced two assessment tools (the overview of implementation assessment and the detailed implementation survey) that had been developed by the Executive Directorate to replace the preliminary implementation assessments and assist the Committee in continuing its constructive dialogue with Member States and in monitoring and promoting the implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005). Like the preliminary implementation assessments, the new tools are designed to ensure thoroughness, consistency, transparency and even-handedness in the Committee's stocktaking process. They have thus far been used to submit eight country files for the Committee's consideration. The Committee has adopted two files, and the Executive Directorate expects to have completed at least 10 files before the end of 2013.

9. The Committee encourages the Executive Directorate to continue its work in support of the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and to update the technical guide for the implementation of that resolution in order to reflect the transition from the preliminary implementation assessment to the detailed implementation survey (and the additional elements prescribed in the survey) and to assist Member States in implementing the resolution more effectively.

IV. Visits to Member States on behalf of the Committee

10. The Committee believes that country visits are a critical part of the direct interaction and engagement between the Committee, its Executive Directorate and Member States. Conducted on the Committee's behalf by the Executive Directorate, they provide an opportunity to discuss, inter alia, terrorism-related trends and challenges, States' counter-terrorism efforts, strengths, weaknesses and technical assistance needs, and good practices in implementing the two resolutions. By adapting the nature and duration of the visits to suit each specific context, the Committee ensures that its approach remains needs-based and flexible. Host States have found the visits to be meaningful and useful. During the review cycle, the Executive Directorate has conducted visits to 29 States, bringing the total number of States visited since 2005 to 88. The Executive Directorate expects to conduct three more visits before the end of 2013. Its experts have continued to take advantage of their presence at workshops and conferences to discuss counter-terrorism endeavours, projects and programmes with the representatives of host Governments and international and regional organizations.

11. On 11 December 2012, the Committee adopted revised guidelines for post-visit follow-up activities. The guidelines (prepared with the assistance of the Executive Directorate) set forth a number of procedural steps aimed at streamlining and enhancing the efficiency of follow-up work.

12. The Committee expects to consider, for the forthcoming reporting cycle, a further round of country visits aimed, inter alia, at following up on previous visits, addressing evolving terrorism trends and methods, and identifying good practices, experiences and lessons learned in countering terrorism.

13. The Committee also expects to consider taking stock of the implementation of the recommendations identified in the visit reports in order to assess the progress

made by Member States, as well as the effectiveness of the overall capacity-building framework and the assistance provided by relevant partners.

V. Updated global survey of the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001)

14. Pursuant to resolution 1963 (2010), the Executive Directorate updated the global implementation survey of Member States' implementation of resolution 1373 (2001), which is widely regarded as providing the only comprehensive counter-terrorism analysis in the United Nations system. In the updated survey (adopted by the Committee in August 2011) it is noted that, since the adoption of resolution 1373 (2001), most States have made considerable progress in ratifying the international counter-terrorism instruments, adopting national counter-terrorism legislation, developing their capacity to bring terrorists to justice, creating financial intelligence units and other specialized mechanisms, strengthening border and transportation security and improving information exchange and cooperation with other States. However, in the survey it is also noted that many States continue to face serious challenges in the conduct of prosecutions in terrorist cases, the development of effective regional platforms for international cooperation in criminal matters, compliance with the obligation to freeze terrorists' assets, preventing the financing of terrorism through new payment methods, cash couriers and the misuse of non-profit organizations and ensuring that counter-terrorism measures comply with the obligations set forth in international law, including human rights law.

15. The 2011 survey also identifies thematic and regional approaches that enable the Executive Directorate to coordinate more effectively with States and donor organizations in facilitating capacity-building assistance.

16. The recently introduced detailed implementation survey will enable the Executive Directorate to conduct a more thorough and even-handed analysis of Member States' implementation efforts and to focus, in its dialogue with Member States, on priority capacity-building programmes that address identified weaknesses.

17. With a view to enhancing its understanding of global counter-terrorism trends, States' strengths and weaknesses in countering terrorism and to targeting more effectively its facilitation of technical assistance delivery, the Committee expects the Executive Directorate to regularly update the global implementation survey, on the basis of information gathered through the detailed implementation survey and other responses submitted by Member States.

VI. Facilitation of technical assistance delivery

18. The facilitation of technical assistance delivery is one of the core tasks assigned by the Security Council to the Committee. The Committee welcomes the fact that its Executive Directorate has taken a number of steps to strengthen its facilitation efforts on the Committee's behalf, including: (a) giving priority to States visited by the Committee and focusing on follow-up requests; (b) working with traditional and new donor States and organizations to facilitate the provision of assistance; (c) acting in accordance with the above-mentioned regional and thematic approaches; (d) increasing its focus on prevention and implementation;

(e) participating actively in projects of the Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism Initiative of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force; (f) integrating the human rights and rule of law-based approach into its activities; (g) establishing working relations with the Global Counterterrorism Forum; and (h) exploring ways to strengthen public-private partnerships on the delivery of technical assistance.

19. The Executive Directorate continued to facilitate the delivery of technical assistance with a view to enhancing Member States' capacity to implement resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005). During the period under review, it made 153 technical assistance referrals. Donors agreed to follow-up on 131 referrals, and in 97 cases the recipient State subsequently agreed to the specific modalities of assistance delivery proposed by the donors and/or the Executive Directorate. Delivery or facilitation of assistance took place in 119 further instances. The Executive Directorate has also engaged with donor States to explore ways to measure the effectiveness and impact of both its facilitation efforts and the resulting delivery of assistance.

20. In its work with Member States to reinforce their counter-terrorism capacities, the Executive Directorate, acting in cooperation with partner organizations and entities and pursuant to its regional and thematic analyses, also facilitated a number of regional and thematic workshops and events within the framework of global, multi-year projects on a variety of topics, including: (a) the freezing of terrorists' assets; (b) misuse of the non-profit sector for terrorist purposes; (c) regulation of alternative remittances to prevent the misuse of remittances for the purpose of financing terrorism; (d) joint investigations; (e) community policing; (f) the conduct of prosecutions in terrorism cases; (g) strengthening the capacity of central authorities; (h) countering the illegal cross-border movement of cash; (i) protection of witnesses and victims of terrorism; and (j) countering violent extremism. The Executive Directorate also continued to develop and implement its regional dialogue with senior judges, prosecutors and police officers in South Asia, which aims to provide a platform for the discussion of challenges associated with criminal justice and the delivery of technical assistance.

21. The Committee encourages the Executive Directorate, in its role as facilitator of technical assistance delivery, to work more closely with visited States on their identified priority needs, including by responding to urgent technical assistance needs through ad hoc arrangements, to work more closely with the donor community to ensure that those needs are effectively addressed and to evaluate the input of those technical assistance activities. The Committee also encourages the Executive Directorate to submit an annual report to the Committee containing a review of past activities and a forecast of future activities, in order to facilitate implementation and cooperation.

VII. Special meetings and events

22. Pursuant to paragraph 11 of resolution 1963 (2010), the Committee, with the assistance of its Executive Directorate, held a special meeting on 28 September 2011 to mark the tenth anniversary of the adoption of resolution 1373 (2001) and the establishment of the Committee. At the conclusion of the meeting, the Committee adopted a forward-looking outcome document urging all Member States to ensure

zero tolerance for terrorism and to take urgent action to prevent and combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations through the full and effective implementation of the resolution.

23. The Committee held a special meeting with international, regional and subregional organizations in Strasbourg, France, in April 2011. The meeting, jointly organized by the Executive Directorate and the Council of Europe, focused on the prevention of terrorism. The Executive Directorate assisted the Committee in organizing two other special meetings with Member States and international, regional and subregional organizations. The first, on preventing and suppressing the financing of terrorism, was held at Headquarters on 20 November 2012; the second, on enhancing cooperation and technical assistance to States in the Sahel region to strengthen their capacity in the global fight against terrorism, was held at Headquarters on 20 September 2013.

24. The Committee, with the assistance of its Executive Directorate, arranged a number of special events with Member States and international and regional organizations on issues of common and current concern, including on countering terrorism through the use of new communications and information technologies. In addition, the Committee held an open meeting on 21 November 2013 at which Tony Blair gave a presentation on countering violent extremism through education on behalf of the Tony Blair Faith Foundation.

25. The special meetings and events of the Committee are open to Member States and international and regional organizations. They help raise the international community's awareness of counter-terrorism issues and provide a useful forum for States and organizations to discuss new threats and capacity-building initiatives to address terrorism-related challenges.

26. The Committee expresses its intention to continue the practice of organizing special meetings and events on themes and issues of common concern and interest to Member States with a view to maximizing the impact of the relevant resolutions and sustaining the commitment of the international community to combat terrorism.

27. The Committee expects its Executive Directorate to review the key outcomes of such meetings and events with a view to implementing targeted follow-up activities in collaboration with Member States and international and regional organizations and entities.

VIII. Development of regional and thematic issues

28. Pursuant to paragraphs 14 and 15 of resolution 1963 (2010), the Executive Directorate gave a series of briefings to the Committee on regional and thematic issues of relevance to the implementation of the relevant resolutions. The Chair of the Committee arranged for similar public briefings by the Executive Directorate for the wider membership. These arrangements and discussions helped the Committee not only to raise awareness of its strategic and transparent approaches but also to raise the visibility of its work and maintain its link to and dialogue with the wider membership.

29. The Committee encourages the Executive Directorate to continue its analysis of regional and thematic issues, including for the purpose of briefing the Committee and the wider membership, bearing in mind the evolving global situation and

focusing on key topics such as the use and abuse of new information and communications technologies, protecting the rights of victims of terrorism, emerging challenges in the prosecution of terrorism, the development of strategic partnerships with relevant non-governmental actors (including women and youth groups, religious leaders, the media and the private sector), protection of the tourism infrastructure, kidnapping for ransom, countering violent extremism and the crimes that fund terrorism.

IX. Development of comprehensive and integrated counter-terrorism strategies and the mechanisms to implement them

30. In its resolution 1963 (2010), the Security Council encouraged the Executive Directorate to work with Member States on developing comprehensive and integrated national counter-terrorism strategies. In this regard, the Executive Directorate established an internal task force to identify existing national and regional strategies on the basis of the country assessments that had been conducted by the Committee since 2001 and taking into account the counter-terrorism action plans of partner regional organizations. During the Committee's visits to Member States, the Executive Directorate discussed with the visited State the potential benefits of putting in place a comprehensive and integrated national counter-terrorism strategy that employs a multidisciplinary approach. Based on this constructive dialogue, and with the consent of the State in question, the Committee has on several occasions recommended in its visit report that the State adopt a national comprehensive and integrated strategy. The Executive Directorate has expressed its readiness to provide expert advice in that regard or to facilitate the delivery of the necessary technical assistance.

31. Working in close cooperation with the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office and its constituent entities, the Executive Directorate engaged with regional organizations on the development of comprehensive regional counter-terrorism strategies. The Executive Directorate and the Office co-led the Working Group of the Whole on National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies, which defined the Group's working methodology, composition and funding, as well as its terms of reference. The Working Group facilitated and co-chaired an international conference on national and regional counter-terrorism strategies, at which participants identified a set of principles to be considered by Member States and regional organizations when developing their respective strategies.

32. The Committee encourages the Executive Directorate to intensify its dialogue with Member States and regional organizations, including during visits of the Committee, on developing comprehensive and integrated counter-terrorism strategies, improving and fine-tuning existing structures and implementing mechanisms in order to strengthen States' and organizations' capacities to articulate strategies, to make full use of country visits to advise Governments on the development of such strategies and to continue working closely within the Office and the working groups of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force.

X. Human rights in the context of counter-terrorism

33. In accordance with the Committee's policy guidance on human rights, the Executive Directorate continued to take account of relevant human rights concerns, including in preparing the preliminary implementation assessments, the overviews of implementation assessment and the detailed implementation survey; in its dialogue with States on behalf of the Committee; and in the framework of country visits, regional workshops and other events. Mindful of the particular set of challenges faced by Member States in their efforts to counter terrorism within a framework that is respectful of human rights and the rule of law, the Executive Directorate has strengthened the integration of international human rights law into its technical assistance facilitation efforts. The human rights aspect has also remained an integral part of the agenda for country visits. In addition, the Executive Directorate continued to liaise at various levels with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism and other human rights mechanisms and entities. It also continued to take an active part in the Working Group on Protecting Human Rights While Countering Terrorism of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force.

34. The Committee encourages its Executive Directorate to continue to ensure that all human rights issues of relevance to the implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005) and 1963 (2010) are addressed consistently and even-handedly, including, as appropriate, in the context of country visits and in the Committee's recommendations for technical assistance.

XI. Implementation of Security Council resolution 1624 (2005)

35. In its resolution 1963 (2010), the Security Council encouraged the Executive Directorate to focus increased attention, in its dialogue with Member States, on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1624 (2005), including by developing strategies that include countering incitement of terrorist acts motivated by extremism and intolerance. In that regard, the Executive Directorate organized a series of regional workshops on the implementation of resolution 1624 (2005) aimed at developing new ideas for strengthening implementation. The workshops (held in East Africa, in November 2011; in the Maghreb and Sahel regions, in July 2012; and in North Africa, in June 2013) enabled participants to reflect upon the complex issues involved in tackling incitement and upon the need to promote greater dialogue among civilizations, including at the national level. The workshops also helped the Executive Directorate to identify potential elements of comprehensive national strategies to counter incitement of terrorist acts motivated by extremism and intolerance.

36. Within the framework of the Committee's country visits, the Executive Directorate continued to engage with States on their efforts to implement resolution 1624 (2005), to collect good practices in areas relating to the prohibition and prevention of incitement and the promotion of dialogue among civilizations and to urge States that had not yet reported to the Committee on their implementation of the resolution to do so. With respect to the Committee's stocktaking process, both the detailed implementation survey and the overview of implementation assessment now provide for the assessment of States' implementation of the resolution. The

Executive Directorate submitted an action plan to assist the Committee in respect of work on the resolution, which was approved by the Committee, and in May 2013 it submitted a report to the Committee on the implementation of the action plan.

37. The Committee encourages its Executive Directorate to continue to focus on the implementation of resolution 1624 (2005), including by paying due attention to relevant issues, such as the role of new information and communications technologies, the promotion of dialogue, including at the national level, in order to promote tolerance, diversity and inclusiveness, the creation of strategic partnerships between Governments and non-governmental actors, the identification of roles for the victims of terrorism and the prevention of the subversion of institutions by terrorists and their supporters.

XII. Global survey of the implementation of Security Council resolution 1624 (2005)

38. In its resolution 1963 (2010), the Security Council directed the Executive Directorate to produce a global survey on the implementation of resolution 1624 (2005) that, inter alia, assesses the evolution of risks and threats, identifies gaps in implementation and proposes new practical ways to implement the resolution. The Executive Directorate is requested, in particular, to encourage States to develop strategies to counter the incitement of terrorist acts motivated by extremism and intolerance.

39. The global survey of the implementation of resolution 1624 (2005), the first of its kind within the United Nation system, was adopted by the Committee on 28 December 2011. A number of challenges to implementation were identified through the survey, including the difficulty of reconciling action against incitement with human rights principles, the increased need to tackle incitement through the Internet and other modern communications technologies and the need to prevent the subversion of educational, cultural and religious institutions. A number of new, practical approaches to implementation were also identified through the survey, including introducing additional safeguards to protect freedom of expression, enhancing dialogue at the community and national levels, listening more attentively to victims and involving them in efforts to counter the appeal of those who incite terrorism and setting up comprehensive rehabilitation programmes for prisoners and detainees.

40. The Committee expects its Executive Directorate to produce an updated version of the global survey for the next review cycle, reflecting updated information on Member States' efforts to implement resolution 1624 (2005).

41. The Committee expresses its intention to consider ways of making the best use of national good practices on the implementation of resolution 1624 (2005), as identified by its Executive Directorate, with the aim of encouraging States to consider taking them into account.

XIII. Engagement within the framework of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force and with other subsidiary bodies of the Security Council and United Nations entities

42. Pursuant to resolution 1963 (2010), the Executive Directorate continued to engage actively with other entities of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force. As a core member of the Task Force, the Executive Directorate contributes to six Task Force working groups. Five of these working groups work on: tackling the financing of terrorism; protecting human rights while countering terrorism; countering the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes; dialogue, understanding and countering the appeal of terrorism; and border management relating to countering terrorism (as co-chair). The Executive Directorate is also co-chair of a sixth working group, the Working Group of the Whole on National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies. In addition, it continues to act as co-chair of the Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism Initiative.

43. The Committee welcomes the fact that its Executive Directorate led the work undertaken within the framework of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force to produce a compendium of international and regional instruments, norms and good practices for border control related to countering terrorism and the work to develop a framework for the coordinated management of border-security risks. Besides, the Executive Directorate led a global initiative within the framework of the Task Force's Working Group on Tackling the Financing of Terrorism to raise awareness about issues related to the risk of such financing through non-profit organizations. The initiative resulted in the introduction of public-private consultative mechanisms to institutionalize a dialogue between States and the private sector, including a discussion on the right to freedom of association and obligations for charity, improvements in international good practices and the provision of follow-up capacity-building projects by several of the Executive Directorate's partners. The Executive Directorate worked with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre to design and facilitate technical assistance projects to meet the needs of recipient States at the regional or thematic level.

44. The Committee welcomes the work of the Executive Directorate to continue to cooperate closely with the experts of the Security Council committees established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) and to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011), including through the regular exchange of information, the sharing of mission reports and the preparation of joint documents and joint statements by the Chairs of the committees to the Council. The three committees explored ways to enhance cooperation in order to avoid duplication of work. The experts of the 1267/1989 Committee and, where appropriate, the 1540 Committee also joined the Executive Directorate on country visits conducted on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee.

45. Within the framework of the Committee's country visits, the Executive Directorate continued to liaise closely on issues of common concern with the Department of Political Affairs, the resident coordinators of the United Nations Development Programme, other Security Council sanctions regimes, the special envoys of the Secretary-General working on Africa, including the Sahel region, and on the prevention of genocide. The Executive Directorate also engaged closely with other partners on thematic issues of concern to the Committee.

46. The Executive Directorate worked closely with the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and with other specialized United Nations agencies within the framework of country visits and the facilitation of technical assistance delivery.

47. In paragraph 16 of its resolution 1963 (2010), the Security Council recalled its resolution 1904 (2009), in which it requested the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements for the expert groups of the three committees to be co-located as soon as possible. The Under-Secretary-General for Management had previously stated that there were challenges involved in finding suitable space and funding for their co-location close to Headquarters.

48. The Committee expresses its intention to consider pursuing the question of the possible co-location of the three experts groups, in light of the completion of the capital master plan and the relocation of staff to Headquarters and the surrounding area.

49. The Committee encourages its Executive Directorate to continue to explore, with other United Nations entities, the best possible approaches and means for coordinating United Nations activities, with respect in particular to the harmonizing of working methodologies and the programming of counter-terrorism projects.

50. The Committee also encourages its Executive Directorate to continue to work with the expert groups of other subsidiary bodies of the Security Council on issues of common concern, with respect in particular to information sharing, country visits, technical assistance delivery and participation in workshops.

XIV. Engagement with international, regional and subregional organizations and entities

51. International, regional and subregional organizations continued to be key partners of the Committee and its Executive Directorate in working with Member States to implement resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005) and 1963 (2010). Engagement with these entities included promoting international best practices, assessing States' implementation of the resolutions, identifying regional and thematic challenges, assisting in States' capacity-building efforts and facilitating the delivery of technical assistance. The Executive Directorate continued to be an active participant in the meetings and activities of the Global Counterterrorism Forum and its regional and thematic groups on the Sahel, the Horn of Africa, South-East Asia, criminal justice/rule of law and countering violent extremism.

52. The Committee expects its Executive Directorate to intensify its working relations with international, regional and subregional organizations in assisting Member States to achieve full implementation of the relevant resolutions. The Committee encourages its Executive Directorate to continue to interact with other entities, including the Global Counterterrorism Forum, in its work with Member States to promote the full implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions.

XV. Interaction with civil society and other non-governmental actors

53. Pursuant to paragraph 7 of resolution 1963 (2010), the Executive Directorate continued to engage with a number of non-governmental actors in promoting effective implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005), including through the development of strategic partnerships. This interaction with academic institutions, think tanks, non-governmental organizations and private sector entities enhanced the Committee's response to key counter-terrorism challenges, including countering the incitement of terrorism motivated by extremism and intolerance, preventing the abuse of the non-profit sector for the purposes of financing terrorism, introducing effective measures to bring terrorists to justice, enhancing border management and providing technical assistance as a supplement to the efforts of donor Governments. The Executive Directorate interacted with non-governmental actors within the framework of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, notably through the activities of Task Force's various working groups.

54. The Committee encourages its Executive Directorate to continue to interact with civil society and other relevant non-governmental actors in its efforts to monitor and promote the implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005) and 1963 (2010) by Member States.

XVI. Public communications and outreach

55. The Committee's communications strategy, which was developed with the assistance of its Executive Directorate, aims to promote key goals set out by the Security Council in resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005). The strategy focuses on the value that the Committee and its Executive Directorate add to the global United Nations fight against terrorism, informing a variety of target audiences about Committee initiatives and Executive Directorate activities around the world. The Executive Directorate has adopted a multimedia approach to reach out to its target audiences, using such tools and channels of communication as the Committee website, a Twitter account and an electronic newsletter, as well as the media services provided by the Department of Public Information. Briefings are conducted for visiting groups in New York and speeches are delivered at conferences and institutions in various locations. The Chair of the Committee presides over regular briefings to the wider membership of the United Nations, when Executive Directorate experts present information about technical aspects of their counter-terrorism work.

56. The Committee expresses its intention to consider ways to strengthen its role and that of its Executive Directorate in strategic communications on countering terrorism and encourages the Executive Directorate to continue its strategic communications programme, in order to communicate as effectively as possible the nature of the activities of the Committee and its Executive Directorate and the key role they play in the United Nations global counter-terrorism effort.

XVII. Organization and operations of the Executive Directorate

57. Jean-Paul Laborde (France) became Executive Director on 1 July 2013, succeeding Mike Smith (Australia). The Committee expresses its appreciation to

both executive directors for their leadership in the work of the Executive Directorate. The Committee notes that during the review period and within an economic climate marked primarily by Member States' continued financial constraints, the Executive Directorate continued to function with the same complement of staff, with the exception of one additional position: a P-3 Human Rights Officer (authorized by the General Assembly in 2011). The staff of the Executive Directorate currently consists of 33 positions in the Professional category and 8 in the General Service category. Should the scope and parameters of the Executive Directorate's responsibilities evolve further, the regular budget resources allocated in support of its activities may need to be increased in order to ensure full implementation of the mandate conferred by the Security Council. In order to ensure its capacity to adapt to the evolving demands of technical assistance facilitation projects funded through voluntary contributions, the Executive Directorate may need to rely increasingly on consultants and temporary staff.

58. Since the establishment of the Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism, the Executive Directorate has become more efficient in managing voluntary contributions in support of its activities. In 2013, extrabudgetary funds in the amount of $850,000 have been used to organize capacity-building workshops and other events, on a variety of counter-terrorism themes in various regions of the world, with a view to enhancing the capacity of Member States to implement resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005). It is expected that voluntary contributions in support of Executive Directorate activities will continue to increase over the coming years.

59. Since its establishment, the Executive Directorate has been given three-year mandates that incorporate an interim review by the Security Council after one and a half years. In this regard, it should be recalled that the Executive Directorate's country visits, follow-up visits and multi-year regional technical assistance projects will require sustained promotion, in accordance with a results-based approach.

60. The Committee believes that it would be helpful for the Security Council to consider renewing the Executive Directorate's mandate for a period of four years, with a midterm review at the end of the second year.

XVIII. Observations concerning the way forward

61. The Committee welcomes that fact that, during the review period, its Executive Directorate completed all the major tasks required by resolution 1963 (2010) and will continue to conduct its work in accordance with all relevant resolutions. In order to ensure that the Executive Directorate can continue to respond effectively to the ever-evolving counter-terrorism situation and to support effectively the work of the Committee and the Council in that regard, the Committee encourages its Executive Directorate to incorporate the following strategic and practical objectives into its work:

(a) To strengthen the role of the Executive Directorate in supporting the Committee to assess progress and shortfalls in Member States' implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005) by emphasizing its core tasks of monitoring and promoting the implementation of the resolutions;

(b) To reinforce the role of the Executive Directorate to develop appropriate responses to fully address Member States' identified technical assistance needs on a

national or regional level, as required, including through dialogue with States, follow-up visits and regional and thematic workshops;

(c) To develop further the Executive Directorate's interaction with its partners, with a view to ensuring the effective delivery of the required assistance, including through regular briefings, on-site dialogue with Member States and communication with international, regional and subregional organizations;

(d) To underline the importance of the Executive Directorate's work, in partnership with other stakeholders, to identify, develop and promote international counter-terrorism good practices;

(e) To intensify the Executive Directorate' efforts to prevent the spread of terrorism, including by:

(i) Strengthening its dialogue with Member States on the effective implementation of resolution 1624 (2005), including through the sharing of good practices by States;

(ii) Developing strategic partnerships with international and regional organizations, civil society, academia and others in conducting research and sharing information in the area of countering violent extremism;

(f) To reinforce the role of the Executive Directorate to advise Member States and regional and subregional organizations in the development of national and regional, comprehensive and integrated counter-terrorism strategies, and effective mechanisms to implement them, including through on-site dialogue with Member States and regional and subregional organizations;

(g) To capitalize on the Executive Directorate's expertise in the provision of technical advice on the implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005) and 1963 (2010) by:

(i) Facilitating research in those areas of the three resolutions that require further examination, including the analysis of terrorism-related trends and methodologies in global and regional settings and the analysis of counter-terrorism measures;

(ii) Identifying new and evolving challenges to States' implementation of the three resolutions;

(iii) Designing global, regional and thematic capacity-building programmes and projects;

(h) To develop the Executive Directorate's global role in strategic communications on counter-terrorism, including by briefing the wider membership, engaging with global leaders and opinion-makers and reaching out to the media and other relevant stakeholders.